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Congress of the United States

U.S. House of Representatives

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JANICE MAYS,
MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL

June 26, 2014

The Honorable Jacob Lew
Secretary
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Lew,

As you know, the House Committee on Ways and Means is conducting an investigation related to the Treasury Inspector for Tax Administration's May 14, 2013 audit report, "Inappropriate Criteria Were Used to Identify Tax-Exempt Applications for Review."


On June 20, 2014, you responded to our June 16, 2014 letter demanding all emails between former Internal Revenue Service official Lois Lerner and any employee of the Treasury Department. Your response read, in part, "...IRS informed Treasury in April 2014 that Ms. Lerner's custodial email box appeared to contain very few emails prior to 2011."

The Internal Revenue Service chose to notify the Treasury Department and the White House of the data loss months before it notified Congress, suppressing information vital to an ongoing investigation. In the interest of transparency, please provide the following information by July 10, 2014:

1. Identify with specificity how, by whom and the date on which Treasury was informed of Lerner's hard drive crash and/or the resulting data loss?
2. Did any employee(s) of the Treasury discuss the timing of the IRS's disclosure to Congress with any employee of Treasury? Please provide the name(s) of the employee(s).
3. Provide all documents related to the IRS's notification to Treasury of the data loss.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at 202-225-5522.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dave Camp".

DAVE CAMP
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "CW Boustany Jr.".

CHARLES W. BOUSTANY Jr. MD
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight